

43. (Amended) A method for diagnostic purposes comprising using the method according to claim 24.

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44. (Amended) A method claim 35, wherein said protein or detectable signal allows for testing or screening of aforementioned protein or signal.

45. (Amended) A method for treatment of neurological insult, disease, deficit or condition comprising using the method according to claim 24.

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

The claim format is modified and multiple dependency is eliminated.

The examination and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated July 13, 2001

Marked-up Claims 1, 4 to 7, 9, 13 to 24, 26, 27 and 36 to 45

1. (Amended) A method for introducing a substance comprising a nucleic acid into a mammalian neural stem cell or progenitor cell, [characterized in that] wherein said nucleic acid directly interacts with the cell membrane of said cell or a component within said cell membrane in vitro whereby the substance comprising said nucleic acid is taken up by the cell via the inherent transport mechanism of the cell.

4. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the claims 1-3] claim 3, wherein said substance [is or] comprises a single or double stranded, linear or circular DNA.

5. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the claims 1-3] claim 1, wherein said substance [is or] comprises a single or double stranded RNA.

6. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the claims 1-3] claim 1, wherein said substance is a fusion molecule comprising a nucleic acid part and a protein part.

7. (Amended) A method according to any [one of the claims 1-3] claim 1, wherein said substance is an expression vector containing specific cDNA.

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9. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the claims 1-6] claim 1,
wherein said substance gives rise to a detectable signal.
13. (Amended) A method according to claim 11 [or 12], wherein said detectable
signal is due to a radioactively tagged nucleic acid.
14. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the claims 1-13] claim 1,
wherein said cell is a cell in a tissue or cell culture.
15. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to any one of the claims 1-14,]
for identification of progenitor cells and/or stem cells comprising using the method
according to claim 1.
16. (Amended) [Use] The method according to claim 15, wherein said cells
after identification [is] are isolated from surrounding cells of other types.
17. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to any one of the claims 1-14,]
for gene therapy comprising using the method according to claim 1.

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18. (Amended) [Use of a] The method according to claim 6 [and 17], wherein said protein part [consists of] comprises a pharmaceutically active protein.

19. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to claim 8,] for propagation of neural cells comprising using the method according to claim 8.

20. (Amended) [Use] The method according to claim 18, wherein said propagated neural cells are suitable for transplantation to patients.

21. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to any one of the claims 1-14,] for detection of a medicinal product comprising cDNA containing expression plasmids comprising using the method according to claim 1.

22. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to any one of the claims 1-14,] for diagnostic purposes comprising using the method according to claim 1.

23. (Amended) [Use of a] The method according to [any one of the claims 8-13] claim 8, wherein said protein or detectable signal allows for testing or screening of aforementioned protein or signal.

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24. (Amended) A method for introducing a substance comprising a nucleic acid into a mammalian neural stem cell or progenitor cell, [characterized in that] wherein said nucleic acid directly interacts with the cell membrane of said cell or a component within said cell membrane in vivo, whereby the substance comprising said nucleic acid is taken up by the cell via the inherent transport mechanism of the cell.

26. (Amended) A method according to claim 24, wherein said substance [is or] comprises a single or double stranded, linear or circular DNA.

27. (Amended) A method according to claim 24, wherein said substance [is or] comprises a single or double stranded RNA.

36. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the claims 1-13] claim 1, wherein said cell is a cell in the central nervous system of a patient.

37. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to claim 24,] for identification of progenitor cells and/or stem cells comprising using the method according to claim 24.

38. (Amended) [Use] The method according to claim 37, wherein said cells after identification [is] are isolated from surrounding cells of other types.

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39. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to any one of the claims 24-38]
for gene therapy comprising using the method according to claim 24.

40. (Amended) [Use of a] A method according to claim 28, wherein said
protein part [consists of] comprises a pharmaceutically active protein.

41. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to claim 30,] for propagation of
neural cells comprising using the method according to claim 30.

42. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to any one of the claims 24-36,]
for detection of a medicinal product comprising cDNA containing expression plasmids
comprising using the method according to claim 24.

43. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to any one of the claims 24-36,]
for diagnostic purposes comprising using the method according to claim 24.

44. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to any one of the claims 30-35]
claim 35, wherein said protein or detectable signal allows for testing or screening of
aforementioned protein or signal.

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Marked-up Claims 1, 4 to 7, 9, 13 to 24, 26, 27 and 36 to 45

45. (Amended) [Use of a] A method [according to claim 24,] for treatment of neurological insult, disease, deficit or condition comprising using the method according to claim 24.

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